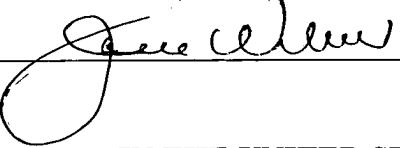


10717724

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 20, 2005.

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 21983-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

JERRY M. HOOVER

Application No. 10/717,724

Filed: November 19, 2003

For: WEED PULLER

Customer No. 20350

Confirmation No. 8688

Examiner: Robert C. Watson

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3723

AMENDMENT

San Francisco, CA 94111
December 20, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As a precautionary measure, applicant requests an extension of time, if needed and if not separately attached hereto, and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the fee therefor to our deposit account in accordance with our standing authorization for such charges.

In response to the Office Action dated September 26, 2005, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Title:

Please change the title of the application so that it reads in its entirety as follows:

12/30/2005 HGUTEMA1 00000013 201430 10717724
01 FC:2201 100.00 DA

--WEED PULLER--

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 4 of this paper.

10717724
12/27/2005 HGUTEMA1 00000013 201430 10717724
01 FC:2202 100.00 DA

Application No. 10/717,724
Amendment
Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.